

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 12/30/74

TAGS: OEXC

SUBJ: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: ST. PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
AND ALVIN AILEY DANCE COMPANY

1. FOLLOWING TWO TOP-QUALITY AMERICAN PERFORMING GROUPS ARE
TOURING WESTERN EUROPE ON COMMERCIAL BASIS DURING CALENDAR
YEAR 1974. BOTH MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMMING IN COUN-
TRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE.

A. ST. PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. UNDER YOUTHFUL MUSIC
DIRECTOR DENNIS RUSSEL DAVIES, THIS TWENTY-TWO MEMBER
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA (PLUS FOUR STAFF ASSISTANTS) IS
AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMMING DURING PERIOD OCT. 14 THROUGH
NOV. 2, 1974, TOTAL OF NINETEEN DAYS. ALL ORCHESTRA MEM-
BERS ARE COMPARATIVELY YOUNG.

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NOW IN ITS SIXTH SEASON, IT IS THE ONLY FULL-TIME CHAMBER

ORCHESTRA IN THE UNITED STATES. WHILE ORCHESTRA PLAYS TRADITIONAL CLASSICAL CHAMBER MUSIC, I.E. CHOPIN'S "CONCERTO NO. 2," HAYDN'S "SYMPHONY NO. 91 IN E FLAT," MOZART'S "EXULTATE JUBILATE," ITS MAJOR EMPHASIS IS ON TWENTIETH CENTURY MUSIC AS COMPOSED BY ELLIOT CARTER, ERIK STOKES, CHARLES IVES, OLIVER MESSIAEN, ALBERTO GUIESTERA, AND OTHERS. STRIKING FEATURE OF ORCHESTRA IS ITS ABILITY TO PRESENT ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES SUCH AS STRING QUINTETS, WIND QUINTETS, ALSO PIANO TRIO. ESTIMATED WEIGHT TOUR PROPERTIES THREE THOUSAND POUNDS.

B. ALVIN AILEY DANCE COMPANY. MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FROM JULY 6 THROUGH AUGUST 5, 1974. COMPANY IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BEST AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY DANCE TROUPES AND IS INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN. UNDER CHOREOGRAPHER-DIRECTOR AILEY, THIS INTEGRATED DANCE COMPANY PRESENTS A VARIED REPERTOIRE OF CONTEMPORARY WORKS. SOME OF ITS STRONGEST DANCE WORKS HAVE NEGRO THEMES OR A JAZZ BASE.

COMPANY CONSISTS OF TWENTY FOUR DANCERS, NINE STAFF INCLUDING TECHNICIANS. ESTIMATED WEIGHT OF EQUIPMENT SIXTEEN TO TWENTY THOUSAND POUNDS INCLUDING COSTUMES, LINOLEUM FLOORING, AND ELECTRICS (COMPANY DANCES TO TAPED MUSIC).

MAXIMUM STAGING REQUIREMENTS 40' X 30', MINIMUM 35' X 27'.

3. ABOVE NAMED GROUPS OFFERED AS POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTES TO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FOR EE IN 1974 SINCE OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN LATTER UNSUCCESSFUL. WHILE NO COMMITMENT MADE TO EITHER GROUP, THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT BOTH WOULD AGREE EXTEND THEIR TOUR IN WE IN ORDER TO INCLUDE APPEARANCES IN EE.

4. APPRECIATE ADDRESSES DISCUSS ON TENTATIVE BASIS WITH LOCAL SPONSOR AND SEEK ASCERTAIN WHETHER,

A) THERE IS INTEREST IN PROGRAMMING CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND DANCE COMPANY AND, IF SO,

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B) DEGREE OF LOCAL SUPPORT WOULD INCLUDE FOOD AND LODGING, ALL STAGING AND LOCAL TRAVEL EXPENSES PLUS HONORARIUM, EQUALLY SPLIT BETWEEN DOLLARS AND CURRENCY INVOLVED. DEPT PREPARED CONSIDER WAIVING HONORARIUM IF LOCAL SPONSORS PREPARED ABSORB COUNTRY TO COUNTRY TRAVEL COSTS OF PEOPLE AND FREIGHT. INDICATION OF EMB SUPPORT THROUGH ITS GOE ALSO WELCOMED.

5. DEPT RECOGNIZES THAT PROGRAMMING AILEY COMPANY DURING JULY-AUGUST PERIOD MAY NOT BE DESIRABLE IN TERMS REACHING POSTS PRIMARY AUDIENCES.

6. APPRECIATE CABLED REPLY TO DEPT (CU/CP) NOT LATER THAN JAN. 22. WILL WITHOLD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS PENDING REVIEW POST REPLIES ON BOTH GROUPS. ANY POST INTERESTED IN BOTH GROUPS SHOULD LIST CHOICE IN ORDER OF PRIORITY. KISSINGER

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